



STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

April 5, 2011

Melanie Yasbin, Attorney
Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer
600 Baltimore, Suite 301
Towson, Maryland 21204-4022

RE: STB Docket No. A-330 (Sub. No. 4X)
Abandon .82 miles of Otter Tail Valley Railroad near Fergus Falls
Fergus Falls, Otter Tail County
SHPO Number: 2010-4682

Dear Ms. Yasbin:


Thank you for providing a formal reply to questions our office raised about the subject project. The information you sent has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the State Historic Preservation Officer by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and the Procedures of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (36CFR800).

Your informative letter, along with the photos we requested of the site, have cleared up our confusion over what facilities had been removed and what remain. It was very helpful to distinguish between the remaining BNSF tracks and bridge, and the previously removed tracks and bridge belonging to Otter Tail Valley Railroad.

Based on the information received, we concur with the Surface Transportation Board's determination that the proposed rail abandonment will have **no adverse effect** on the Northern Pacific Railroad Wadena to Breckenridge Segment, nor on the Hoot Lake Project Power Plant, both of which have been determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. This should conclude the Sec. 106 review for this project.

Feel free to call me at (651) 259-3456 if you have any questions regarding our review.

Sincerely,



Mary Ann Heidemann, Manager
Government Programs and Compliance

cc: Troy Brady, Surface Transportation Board